City of Barrie
Report of the Sustainability Advisory Committee

Thursday, April 02, 2026 at 05:30 PM
For consideration by the Infrastructure and Community Investment Committee

Present:
Councillor, S. Morales
D. MacKeown
S. Schwarz
J. Bourne
N. Flinn
L. Hoffarth
J. Northcote
W. Steimle

Absent:
Councillor, B. Hamilton
K. MacLeod
E. van Wesenbeeck
D. Waters

Staff:
Legislative Coordinator, C. Payne
Manager of Energy Management, A. McMullin
Manager of Strategic Initiatives, Policy and Analysis, J. Roberts

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Co-Chair, W. Steimle at 5:33 p.m.

2. PRESENTATIONS

Nil.

3. DISCUSSION ITEMS

3.1 Repair Café and City Swap Days

The Committee further discussed the coordination of the City's Curbside Giveaway Days with the Barrie Public Library's Repair Cafe events and reaching out to staff at the library.

Curbside Giveaway Days and Barrie Public Library Repair Café

That correspondence be sent to the Barrie Public Library on behalf of the Sustainability Advisory Committee requesting the coordination of their Repair Café events with the City’s Curbside Giveaway Days.

Approved for consideration by Infrastructure and Community Investment Committee

3.2 Incentives for Sustainability in Building

Co-Chair, W. Steimle inquired about the possibility of creating green development standards or incentives for developers to build more sustainably. Members also inquired whether stipulations for sustainable building could be incorporated into the Zoning By-law.

A. McMullin, Manager of Energy Management, and J. Roberts, Manager of Strategic Initiatives, Policy and Analysis, advised that due to recent Provincial legislation changes, the City's capacity to impose green standards on developers through policy and the Zoning By-law has been significantly reduced. A. McMullin noted that financial incentives alone are often short-lived solutions and would need adequate funding from an appropriate source. J. Roberts suggested the potential creation of a Community Improvement Plan (CIP) focused on sustainability and incentives for builders. The Committee further discussed the idea of CIP including challenges and what the program would look like.

Sustainable Buildings Community Improvement Plan

That staff in Development Services and Energy Management undertake a best practices scan and a feasibility analysis of an incentive-based sustainable buildings program delivered through a Community Improvement Plan including meaningful financial, administrative, and implementation considerations and report back to the Sustainability Advisory Committee.

Approved for consideration by Infrastructure and Community Investment Committee

3.3 EV Charging Support

A. McMullin, Manager of Energy Management, provided an overview of the City's inventory of electronic vehicle (EV) chargers and usage trends and data. The Committee discussed ideas regarding the proper maintenance of existing chargers, whether the speed or cost of charging has an impact on driver behaviour, and the location and placement of chargers. Members also discussed the benefits of ensuring City facilities are equipped with EV charging infrastructure in preparation for increased EV use in the future.

Electronic Vehicle-Ready Infrastructure

That staff in Energy Management be directed to incorporate EV-ready electrical conduit infrastructure into all new construction, renovation and resurfacing projects at City-owned parking facilities ensuring that future installation of electric vehicle charging equipment can be completed with minimal disruption and cost.

Approved for consideration by Infrastructure and Community Investment Committee

3.4 Bird-Friendly Design Standards - Window Demarcations

This item was deferred to a future meeting.

3.5 SMDHU On the Move Campaign

This item was deferred to a future meeting.

3.6 Environmental Support Grant

This item was deferred to a future meeting.

3.7 Solar GIS Layer

This item was deferred to a future meeting.

3.8 Ideas/Actions for Next Term

This item was deferred to a future meeting.

4. REFERRED ITEMS

Nil.

5. REPORTS/MEMORANDUMS TO COMMITTEE

Nil.

6. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

CHAIRMAN